

Meeting Summary
Northwest Plan
Advisory Committee
March 17, 2005
Northwest Library

Attendees

John Best, Far NW Coalition
Michael Bratka, Commercial Realtor
Mike Brown, Summerwood Civic Assoc.
Dave Ditmars, NW Civic Association
Christy Eversole, Rau Lane Civic Assoc.
Paul Feldman, City of Worthington
David Hartsook, Hartsook Commercial Real Estate
Chris Holmes, Brookside Civic Assoc.
Anna Lee, Sawmill Forest Civic Assoc.
Robert Lipps, Sawmill Forest Civic Assoc.
Jamie Lipps, Sawmill Forest Civic Assoc.
Rosemarie Lisko, NW Civic Assoc.
John Macomber, Brookside Woods
Peggy McElroy, NW Civic Assoc.

Charles Meyfeds, resident
Natalia Nazlyma, resident
Christine Scott, Rau Lane Civic Assoc.
Bill Schuck, NW Civic Assoc.
Laura Shinn, OSU
Suzanne Vais, Columbus Planning Division
Jeanne Weatherly, Sawmill Forest Civic Assoc.
Jane Weislogel, Shaker Square Civic Assoc.
Scott Whitlock, Rau Lane Civic Association

Suzanne Vais, Senior Planner with the Columbus Planning Division, opened the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

First, Ms. Vais gave an update to the group regarding the current rezoning application on SR 161 at the railroad tracks. At this time, the case has not been scheduled for the Columbus Development Commission.

Next, Ms. Vais distributed information to the group on the Regional Commercial Planning Overlay and the Community Commercial Overlay. These overlays are a part of the Columbus Zoning Code and contain development standards that would apply to new development or redevelopment along commercial corridors. Ms. Vais indicated that one or both of these overlays could be applicable to portions of the planning area. Specifically, there is potential to apply an overlay to Sawmill Road, SR 161, Bethel Road and/or Henderson Road. Additionally, there could also be key intersections that could be considered, such as Smokey Row Road and Hard Road and/or SR 161 and Linworth Road.

The following thoughts were shared during this discussion:

- Need more information regarding how a planning overlay would mesh with suggested improvements in the public right-of-way, i.e. a bike path.
- Would like to see a map showing existing setbacks, etc. along the major commercial corridors.

Ms. Vais stated that this is just the first review of the overlay material. She will provide more information to the group and there will be further discussion regarding if the overlays should be used within the planning area.

The next item on the agenda was regarding the pockets of township land that are scattered within the planning area. Ms. Vais distributed recommendations from the existing Northwest Plan (1996 and 2003 amendments) that dealt with the township land. The 2003 amendment to the Northwest Plan dealt specifically with land along Riverside Drive. The group agreed that this was still relevant and that it should be included in the updated plan. The group also offered the following thoughts:

- If annexation of township land occurs, the land should develop in a manner that is consistent and compatible with the surrounding area. This is in terms of land use and density. This policy should also extend to all infill development.
- If a planning overlay is applied to a portion of the area then as land is annexed the overlay should be applied to the newly annexed area.

These additional comments were given during the course of the meeting:

- Plan needs to provide guidance on the development of Reed Road between Henderson and Bethel roads.
- Need to establish a dialogue between jurisdictions along SR 161. Land use and traffic issues need to be discussed. The Linworth-161 intersection provides an opportunity for the jurisdictions to work together on planning the future for the area.

The meeting concluded at approximately 8:40 pm. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee will be April 7 at 7 pm at the Northwest Library.